
HOUSE BILL 2737

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Anderson, Halpern, Hurst, Williams, and Hankins

Read first time 01/16/08. Referred to Committee on Technology,
Energy & Communications.

1 AN ACT Relating to nuclear energy; creating a new section; and
2 providing an expiration date.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) The joint legislative task force on
5 nuclear energy is established, with nine members as provided in this
6 subsection:

7 (i) The majority leader of the senate shall appoint one member from
8 each of the two largest caucuses of the senate;

9 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one
10 member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
11 representatives; and

12 (iii) The governor shall appoint five members, including
13 representatives from the executive branch and the nuclear industry.

14 (b) The majority leader of the senate and the speaker of the house
15 of representatives jointly shall appoint the cochairmen of the task force
16 from among the legislative members of the task force. The cochairmen
17 shall convene the initial meeting of the task force. A steering
18 committee consisting of the legislative members of the task force shall

1 advise the cochairs on the meetings and other activities of the task
2 force.

3 (2) The task force shall study the feasibility of pursuing
4 additional nuclear-generated power in Washington including, but not
5 limited to, the following:

6 (a) An examination of advanced nuclear power reactors including,
7 but not limited to, generations III and IV nuclear technologies;

8 (b) A review of the advanced nuclear technologies that are in
9 operation in other countries;

10 (c) An examination of the methods by which spent fuel may be
11 recycled, converted, or disposed of;

12 (d) A review of the safety issues associated with operating and
13 maintaining advanced nuclear power reactors;

14 (e) The estimated cost per kilowatt hour of nuclear energy
15 generated by an advanced nuclear power reactor as compared to other
16 energy resources, such as wind, solar, hydroelectric, and coal;

17 (f) An examination of the licensing, permitting, or other
18 regulatory costs associated with constructing an advanced nuclear power
19 reactor in the state; and

20 (g) A review of potential federal tax incentives that may be
21 available to support advanced nuclear power reactor projects in the
22 state.

23 (3) Staff support for the task force will be provided by senate
24 committee services and the house of representatives office of program
25 research. The task force may hire additional staff with specific
26 technical expertise if such expertise is necessary to carry out the
27 mandates of this study, and only if an appropriation is specifically
28 provided for this purpose.

29 (4) Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed for
30 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
31 members, except those representing an employer or organization, are
32 entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW
33 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

34 (5) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the
35 senate and house of representatives. Task force expenditures are
36 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee
37 and the house of representatives executive rules committee, or their
38 successor committees.

1 (6) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
2 the legislature by December 1, 2008.

3 (7) This section expires July 1, 2009.

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